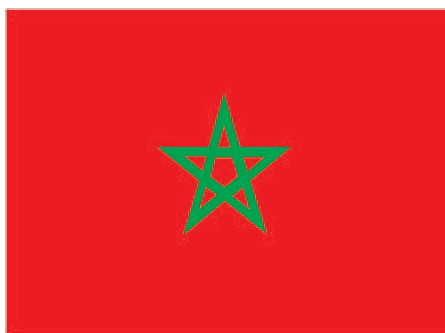




MOROCCO



INTRODUCTION

In 788, about a century after the Arab conquest of North Africa, a series of Moroccan Muslim dynasties began to rule in Morocco. In the 16th century, the Sa'adi monarchy, particularly under Ahmad al-MANSUR (1578-1603), repelled foreign invaders and inaugurated a golden age. The French imposed a protectorate over the country. A protracted independence struggle with France ended successfully in 1956.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

King MOHAMMED VI

Head of Government

Prime Minister Saad-Eddine al-OTMANI

Government Type

parliamentary constitutional monarchy

Capital

Rabat

Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of: Chamber of Advisors (120 seats) and Chamber of Representatives (395 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 446,550 sq km

Land: 446,300 sq km

Water: 250 sq km

Climate

Mediterranean, becoming more extreme in the interior

Natural Resources

phosphates, iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, fish, salt

ECONOMY

lower middle-income North African economy; COVID-19 brought first recession since 1995; reforming state-owned enterprises and expanding welfare system; large tourism, manufacturing, and aeronautics industries; managed debt

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$259.4 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$6,900 (2020 est.)

Industries - automotive parts, phosphate mining and processing, aerospace, food processing, leather goods, textiles, construction, energy, tourism

Agricultural products - wheat, sugar beets, milk, potatoes, olives, tangerines/mandarins, tomatoes, oranges, barley, onions

Exports \$37.52 billion (2020 est.)

cars, insulated wiring, fertilizers, phosphoric acid, clothing, apparel (2019)

partners: Spain 23%, France 19% (2019)

Imports \$46.26 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, cars/vehicle parts, natural gas, coal, low-voltage protection equipment (2019)

partners: Spain 19%, France 11%, China 9%, US 7%, Germany 5%, Turkey 5%, Italy 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

36.6 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.92% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Arab-Berber 99%, other 1%

Language

Arabic (official), Berber languages (Tamazight (official), Tachelhit, Tarifit), French

Religion

Muslim 99% (official; virtually all Sunni, <0.1% Shia), other 1% (includes Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i); note - Jewish about 6,000 (2010 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 64.1% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 1.88% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

Literacy

73.8% (2018)

